

# NEWS RELEASE



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**DATE:** July 6, 2001

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## Sudden Oak Death Found in Mendocino County

**Sacramento-** The pathogen known as Sudden Oak Death has been found in Mendocino County, bringing to eight the number of counties in California with the infestation. The California Oak Mortality Task Force (COMFT) confirmed this week that the fatal disease continues to spread as new host species and new sites of infestation are found.

The fungus that seems to rot the tree from the inside out has killed thousands of oak trees in Monterey, Santa Cruz, Marin, Napa, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Sonoma counties. Sudden Oak Death is so named because oak trees can go from green to shriveled and brown in a few months.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) is one of the member agencies of the COMFT. "I'm very alarmed that the list of hosts and sites continues to grow," stated Andrea Tuttle, director of CDF. "The people of California must understand that this disease has the potential to cause an ecological disaster. Full cooperation with all regulations and restrictions is essential."

Transportation is now prohibited of unprocessed wood and wood products from susceptible trees in the infested areas. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) confirms that the restrictions will be applied to Mendocino County immediately. The county agriculture commissioner enforces the quarantine in each county. "These restrictions are based on the best science we have right now," added Tuttle.

Those wanting to know more about the disease, regulations and research may visit [www.suddenoakdeath.org](http://www.suddenoakdeath.org)

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